

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PORG, FAO

SUBJECT: WFP/IGC: RECONSTITUTED IGC

REF: ROME 1773

ROME FOR FODAG

1. BECAUSE OF OUR STRONG DESIRE EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS, WE FIND DISAPPOINTING THE CONTINUED UN-FAO-WFP JOCKEYING WITH REGARD TO RE-CONSTITUTION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF WFP. SCENARIO ENVISAGED IN REFTEL WOULD IN OUR VIEW HAVE UN-FORTUNATE EFFECT OF DELAYING OPPORTUNITY OF IGC TO CONTRIBUTE TO THINKING CONCERNING ITS OWN FUTURE AND WOULD THUS ADD TO PRESENT DIFFICULTIES.

2. WHILE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS MAY ACCEPT ELIMINATION OF AD HOC MEETING, WE FEEL SURE MANY WILL INSIST ON DIS-

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CUSSING RECONSTITUTION DURING IGC SESSION AND REACT

STRONGLY IF UN, FAO AND WFP FAIL TO PAVE WAY BY PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTATION AND APPROPRIATE ORAL PRESENTATIONS.

3. USG ITSELF IS PREPARED TO PUSH FOR DISCUSSION IN IGC IF SECRETARIATS FAIL TAKE MORE RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE IN THIS REGARD. WITH RES XXII HAVING BEEN PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY WFC AND ADOPTED BY UNGA, GOVERNMENTS

PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN RECONSTITUTION WILL MOST SURELY VIEW SCENARIO AS EVIDENCE OF FOOTDRAGGING. IN ALL OF THIS WE ARE MINDFUL THAT USG PROPOSED WFC AND PLAYED A PROMINENT PART IN ITS ACTIVITIES. FYI. THERE IS NO DOUBT LDC PRESSURE ALONE WILL FORCE DISCUSSION IN SOME FORUM AT EARLY DATE. IN OUR VIEW LIKELIHOOD OF OUTCOME AGREEABLE TO USG FAR MORE LIKELY OCCUR WITHIN THIS 24-MEMBER BODY THAN IN LARGER FORUMS OF FAO COUNCIL, ECOSOC OR SPECIAL SESSION UNGA. END FYI.

4. SYG WALDHEIM AND DG BOERMA ARE TO CONFER TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, IN ROME ON IGC RECONSTITUTION AND OTHER MATTERS. IT IS REQUESTED THAT AMBASSADOR ASSISTED BY COUNSELOR NORRED FIND OCCASION DELIVER IDENTICAL AIDE MEMOIRES ALONG FOLLOWING LINES TO SYG AND DG ON THAT DATE, DRAWING AS MAY BE FELT APPROPRIATE ON THE ABOVE IN CONVERSATION AND EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS ISSUE. COPY OF AIDE MEMOIRE SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE PROVIDED WFP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

5. TEXT. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT VIEWS AS A VERY IMPORTANT MATTER THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AND HOPES THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WILL USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES TO ARRANGE AN EFFECTIVE DISCUSSION, IN THE 27TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, ON HOW THAT COMMITTEE, AS RECOMMENDED IN RESOLUTION XXII, MIGHT BEST BE RECONSTITUTED.

(PARA) IN THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES, THIS RECONSTITUTION CAN BE AIDED CONSIDERABLY BY A THOROUGH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSION BETWEEN INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. WE WOULD HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT THE ADDRESSES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE WILL LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE TYPE OF DISCUSSION REQUIRED. THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE AS MEMBERS OR OBSERVERS COULD THUS BE CONSIDERED BY THE FAO COUNCIL AND ECOSOC

IN THEIR SUMMER SESSIONS.

(PARA) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD
BE UNFORTUNATE IF THESE OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED
NATIONS FAMILY SHOULD TAKE ACTION CONCERNING THE
RECONSTITUTION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE WITHOUT
THE BENEFIT OF THE VIEWS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COM-
MITTEE ITSELF. THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO MAKING THIS EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS POSSIBLE IN THE MARCH 17-25 SESSION WILL THUS BE
DEEPLY APPRECIATED. END TEXT. INGERSOLL

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